



July 15, 2010

Major General Charles F. Bolden (Ret.)
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20546

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Cleveland, Ohio 44114
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Linda Abraham-Silver, Ed.D.
President & CEO

Dear Gen. Bolden,

We would like to add our support to the effort to bring a retired Space Shuttle to the National Museum of the United State Air Force in Dayton. We are the NASA Glenn Visitor Center, and Ohio colleagues and partners with the NMUSAF. We feel the presence of the Shuttle would further our own efforts to inspire future generations to pursue STEM education and careers, which is so vital to our country, to NASA, and especially to this region.

We feel the NMUSAF is the ideal facility to preserve the legacy of NASA's Space Shuttle program. Retiring an orbiter at Wright-Patterson, just miles away from the historic home of the Wright brothers, will serve as an educational attraction for students and residents and encourage further local tourism and economic growth.

NMUSAF is visited by 1.3 million people annually, free of charge. This makes Dayton and NMUSAF a perfect place to engage the general public in the success of our space program and the integral role Ohio plays in supporting NASA.

Cleveland is home to the Glenn Research Center, which as you well know was the premier NASA facility for so many Shuttle-related activities. We want more people to know that NASA's economic impact to the state exceeds \$1.2 billion and acts as a catalyst for the 1,200 aerospace-related companies in Ohio (with thousands more in the supply chain) - companies that employ more than 100,000 Ohioans.

We are proud to be an integral part of the NASA "story" in Ohio and believe it can be greatly enriched by placing the Shuttle in Dayton. We will be very proud to encourage our own 300,000+ visitors to deepen their NASA-related experiences through a visit there.

Sincerely,

Dr. Linda Abraham-Silver
President & CEO

cc: Major General Charles D. Metcalf, Director
George J. Mongon, Chief Development Officer